

Q. Mr. President, when you look at the mark that you want to leave on the Court, what specifically does Judge Breyer bring to the Court?

The President. I think he brings three things that I think are important, besides the ability to get people together and work with them. I think he brings, one, a real devotion to the Bill of Rights and to the idea that personal freedoms are important to the American people. And I think he will strike the right balance between the need for discipline and order, being firm on law enforcement issues but really sticking in there for the Bill of Rights and for the issue of personal freedoms. You know, this country got started by people who wanted a good letting alone from Government. And every time we think about doing anything around here, we have to recognize that Americans have always had a healthy skepticism about Government reaching into their lives. I think he understands that.

The second thing I think he understands is the practical implications of governmental actions that the Court may have to review. I know that some of his writings have been a little bit controversial in some quarters in analyzing the economic impacts of governmental actions and things of that kind. But I think that he shows that he really understands that.

The third thing that I think he can do is cut through the incredible complexities that surround so many of the issues that we're confronted with in our world today and render them simple, clear, and understandable, not only—first of all, to himself, secondly, to his colleagues, and thirdly, to the American people. I think it is important that the American people have confidence in the Supreme Court and feel that somehow it is accessible to them. And I believe that Judge Breyer will do a good job of that.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 9

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata of Japan. He then traveled to New York City.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Rhode Island and returned to Washington, DC, in the evening.

The President declared a major disaster exists in the State of Nebraska and ordered Federal funding to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe snow and ice storm on April 10 to 13.

May 11

The President declared a major disaster exists in the State of Michigan and ordered Federal funds be released to help communities in that State recover from record breaking temperatures and a deep freeze which began on January 10.

The President announced his intention to nominate Neil Offen as a member of the Inter-American Foundation. Upon confirmation, Mr. Offen will be designated Vice Chair.

May 12

In the afternoon, the President met with Foreign Minister Alain Juppe of France to discuss his upcoming visit to France to commemorate D-Day.

The President appointed Joseph N. Onek as a member of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission.

May 13

The President declared a major disaster exists in the State of Maine and ordered Federal funds be released to help communities

in that State recover from flooding and ice jams which began on April 15.

The President announced his intention to nominate Phyllis Elliott Oakley as Assistant Secretary of State of the new Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jose M. Amador as Assistant Secretary for Science and Education at the Department of Agriculture.

The President announced his intention to nominate George Charles Bruno as Ambassador to Belize.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service Officers.

Submitted May 10

Colleen Jennings-Roggensack, of Arizona, to be a member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 1996, vice Joseph Epstein, term expired.

Clyde Arlie Wheeler, Jr., of Oklahoma, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, vice George James Benston.

Submitted May 11

John A. Koskinen, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, vice Philip Lader.

Ronald E. Neumann, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

Frank G. Wisner, of the District of Columbia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to India.

Submitted May 12

Jeffrey Rush, Jr., of Missouri, to be Inspector General, Agency for International Development (new position).

Fredric K. Schroeder, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Department of Education, vice Nell Carney, resigned.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released May 6¹

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on the President's meeting with Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia

Released May 8

White House statement on a comprehensive policy review of U.S. policy toward Haiti

Released May 9

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on the President's telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata of Japan

Released May 10

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on convergence of the U.S. Polar-or-

¹ This release was not received in time for inclusion in the appropriate issue.